



For Immediate Release
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Sen. Sanborn pushes for congressional action on Canadian waste

LANSING – Sen. Alan Sanborn, R-Richmond Township, spoke today before a Senate panel to push adoption of his measure that would call on Congress to allow Michigan to block Canadian waste.

Sanborn testified before the Senate Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee in support in Senate Resolution 43. The committee recommended the full Senate pass Sanborn's resolution.

"Canadian trash is filling up our landfills," Sanborn said. "Congress must act now to allow us to address this growing problem. The Michigan Legislature has acted and now our representatives in Washington should as well."

The amount of solid waste entering Michigan is at an all time high. In the late 1990s, the state took in some 5.6 million cubic yards of solid waste per year. Last year, the state took in 15 million cubic yards of waste — nearly three times the amount in just 7 years time.

To address the problem of foreign waste, state lawmakers have passed legislation that could restrict the flow of foreign municipal waste but congressional action is needed. U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers, R-Brighton, has introduced legislation in Congress that would allow Michigan and other states to limit the flow of foreign waste into their state. HR 593 is supported by a number of members of Michigan's congressional delegation and has bipartisan support in the U.S. House. Sanborn's measure calls for passage of HR 593.

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Note: Photos of Sanborn testifying are available on the senator's photo Web page, located at senate.michigan.gov/gop/photowire/Sanborn/Sanborn.htm.